

As our country wages the war on terrorism and we debate whether to go to war against Iraq, it is more important than ever to remember past sacrifices made by the men and women of America's armed forces. It is crucial to the continued high morale of our military and the peace of mind of missing soldiers' families that we offer our support—we must be clear that their loved ones' efforts were not in vain.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues, the people of Maryland and citizens around the country to celebrate and honor those who have selflessly dedicated their lives to serving their country and have, as a result, been either imprisoned or remain missing. This country owes a debt of gratitude to the current and former POW and MIA soldiers of the United States armed forces.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST THE UNITED STATES ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday September 11, 2001

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, Last week it was my high honor and privilege to join my colleagues in the House and Senate for a Commemorative Joint Session of Congress in New York City to honor the victims and heroes of September 11th.

While we Members of Congress are often engaged in abrasive confrontation, today I look around and see total unity, total recognition that whether Republican or Democrat, we are first and foremost Americans, and the common values we share far outweigh those we do not.

This is the same expression of unity demonstrated by Americans across the country on the days following the terrorist attacks on September 11th. I find comfort in the knowledge that it represents a promise that we will not back down from preserving our freedoms and protecting our homeland from those who wish to destroy our way of life.

And as we revisit some of the darkest moments in our nation's history, we must remember that our Nation has always been one that has triumphed over adversity. Indeed, I think it is fair to say that at times of great despair, America has consistently risen to its greatest hours.

So in remembrance of those lives lost on September 11th, I would like to conclude with some words from President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address:

"that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion * * * that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain * * * that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom * * * and that government of the people * * * by the people * * * for the people * * * shall not perish from the earth."

HONORING GEORGE GODDARD

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent George Goddard who died on August 15, 2002, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

Mr. Goddard was born in Chicago in 1923. After graduating from Yale with a commission as Lt. (jg) in the U.S. Navy, he served on board the communications ship USS *Panamint*, which, during World War II, took the Japanese surrender of the island of Hokkaido.

After moving to Massachusetts in 1948, Mr. Goddard studied architecture at the Harvard School of Design where he was influenced by Walter Gropius and Mies van der Rohe. He moved to Belvedere in Marin County, CA, with his growing family and started his architectural career with Skidmore, Owens and Merrill. He later practiced independently and as a planning consultant designing teaching hospitals and medical and dental schools.

As a lifelong activist in social, political, and conservation causes, George stayed involved. He served on the Belvedere Planning Committee and played an integral role in acquiring Richardson Bay tidelands to save them from development. He also served as supervising architect during the move by barge of Lyford House, an 1870s dairy residence about to fall under the wrecker's ball, to its current home at the Richardson Bay Audubon Sanctuary.

George Goddard loved hiking, backpacking, sailing, and politics. In the 1990s, he organized a group of fellow navy officers into what became known as the Liars Club. Calling themselves Admirals, they met periodically to embellish their war experiences. As no one paid any attention to anyone else, they could go on for years retelling the same enhanced stories. He is survived by his wife Sheret, six children, two grandsons, and six stepchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Goddard was a valued member of the Marin community who will be missed by all who had the opportunity to know him.

EXPERIENCE WORKS

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Experience Works, a nonprofit organization that provides training, employment, and community service opportunities for mature workers.

Experience Works provides a valuable service to seniors thru various programs designed to help them enter the workforce, secure a more challenging position, move into a new career, or supplement their income. These services are provided to more than 125,000 people each year thru their offices located in 44 states nationwide and in Puerto Rico. Experience Works programs are funded by more than 75 public and private sources, and are the largest grantee of the federal government's Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP). Through their work,

they provide seniors the tools to use their many talents to help others in various settings.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to give special recognition to the 2002 Blair County Outstanding Older Worker, Romaine Fleming, and Martin's Food Store, the 2002 Blair County Outstanding Employer of Older Workers. Ms. Fleming was selected for her long-standing contributions to the community. Her most notable contribution is her 34 years of dedicated service to Child Advocates of Blair County, Inc. Ms. Fleming is an inspiration to all those she works with and those she helps in her day to day activities. I congratulate her on this well deserved recognition and thank her for her service to the community of Blair County. I would also like to extend my congratulations for their recognition and my thanks to Martin's Food Store for their outstanding contributions to the community as well. They are an organization that displays a strong respect for mature workers and recognizes all the benefits this workforce can bring to an institution and a community. Their desire to secure older workers demonstrates their belief that the experience and reliability of these workers can add incredible strength to any organization.

I would like to again extend my thanks to Experience Works for all their hard work and contributions they provide the older workers in this country and congratulate Romaine Fleming and Martin's Food Store for their recognition as the 2002 Blair County Outstanding Older Worker and Outstanding Employer of Older Workers, respectively. I wish them all the best of luck as they continue to enrich the lives of others, as well as their own, through their many contributions.

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION IN THE APPALACHIAN AND NORTHEAST REGIONS

HON. DON SHERWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Mr. SHERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation to authorize the Army Corps of Engineers to execute thousands of required small aquatic ecosystem restoration projects in the Appalachian region and the Northeastern United States. Currently, the region is estimated to have over 54,000 miles of impaired streams, rivers and coastline. In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania alone 7,261 miles of streams and rivers out of 54,000 miles are classified as impaired. Of this amount 2,711 miles (37 percent) are impaired due to abandoned mine drainage. Contaminated water emanating from abandoned coal mines is one of the most severe and long lasting water pollution and habitat degradation problems in the Appalachian region. Pennsylvania has estimated cost to restore habitat and remediate water quality problems caused by Abandoned Mine Drainage (AMD) is in excess of \$3.8 billion. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission estimates the economic loss to fisheries and recreation of the 2,711 miles impacted by mine drainage is approximately \$67 million annually.

Moreover, using data from the Environmental Protection Agency, it is apparent the extent of just the aquatic ecosystem problems is enormous; the extent of degraded contributing land resources is likewise of tremendous

scope. For example, West Virginia has 6,213 miles of impaired waters, 69 percent of which, are caused by mine drainage. In both Maryland and New Jersey greater than 25 percent of all surface waters are considered impaired. In New Jersey 76 percent of the impaired waters have impaired aquatic life. New York State has 3,324 miles of impaired waters. Connecticut has 4,119 miles of impaired streams and coastline. Vermont has 757 miles of impaired streams and 21,376 acres of impaired lakes, 43 percent of these have impaired aquatic life. New Hampshire and Maine combined have 3,588 miles of impaired streams/coastline and over 290,000 acres of impaired lakes. Correcting these problems will require both innovative solutions and a broad ecosystem based approach that considers both the waterways, and the land issues contributing to water degradation.

The intent of this legislative proposal is to establish a pilot program, with broad authority for comprehensive restoration in the Appalachian, New England, and Mid-Atlantic Regions of the United States. This authority will begin to address the longstanding problems of abandoned mine drainage and other non-point sources of pollution currently impairing water quality and species diversity on the region. The program is intended to provide seamless authority for the Corps of Engineers to plan, design and implement small ecosystem restoration projects in cooperation with non-Federal partners including States, local Governments and non-profit organizations. The cost sharing provisions of this authority are consistent with other Corps of Engineers continuing authorities and include innovative provisions to allow pilot testing of innovative technologies, allow non-Federal sponsorship by non-profit organizations, and allow non-Federal sponsors credit for in-kind services performed during the feasibility study phase of a project.

The total cost of the proposed legislation over the authorized six year term is \$200,000,000. This amount will not solve the regions' total ecosystem restoration needs but it will contribute substantially to meeting these needs and add to the overall non-Federal efforts currently in process. The estimated benefits of this program include improved water quality, restored ecosystem habitat and increased species diversity, both aquatic and terrestrial, economic benefits associated with restoration of stream and river fisheries, and other intangible benefits to communities associated with the visual improvement of environmental surroundings. This program will also provide much needed technical assistance to States and local communities in the assessment of environmental problems and the development of restoration strategies using the Corps' state of the art watershed modeling techniques and experience gained in environmental restoration.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST THE UNITED STATES ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of the events of September 11th.

One year ago America suffered a horrible act of terrorism in New York, at the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania. Four planes, filled with innocent Americans, were turned into weapons at the hands of men filled with anger and hate, intent on bringing death and destruction to our great country. It is a day none of us will ever forget.

As the United States moves forward, we must remember those who died on September 11th, as well as the acts of heroism, valor and courage displayed on that day and the weeks and months to follow. I continue to find inspiration in the efforts of all Americans who risked their lives to save and heal their neighbors, co-workers, and strangers in need.

Let us also not forget the men and women in our armed forces who today are engaged in a campaign against terrorism, fighting to protect our freedom and seeking justice against those who attacked us. Their continued valor is a testament to the will and resolve of our great nation.

We will continue to pray for the victims and their families as we re-build the communities affected by those terrible acts of violence. Today, one year after this horrific act of terrorism, we, as Americans, re-affirm our highest beliefs in freedom, democracy and justice.

MARKING THE 14TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLOODY RISE TO POWER OF MILITARY DICTATORSHIP IN BURMA

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today marks the fourteenth anniversary of the bloody rise to power of the military dictatorship in Burma. This despotic regime has denied its people basic liberties and freedoms including democratic representation, free speech, and an independent press. Allegations have also come to light that this regime has used the mass rape of women and children to instill fear. They have imprisoned and murdered thousands of their political opponents and closed thirty universities since 1995 to suppress popular student opposition.

I would like to speak specifically to the issue of labor rights in Burma. It is an undisputed fact that the Government of Burma has forced thousands of its citizens into forced labor. Bonded servitude is woven into the social fabric of many nations, but in Burma it is even more contemptuous because it is nothing more than slavery at its core and it is sanctioned by the government and employed by its military.

For many years, international organizations including the International Labor Organization, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, and the United Nations Commission on Human Rights have attempted to get the regime to emancipate its slaves. Burma has flaunted international sanctions and continues to be uncooperative and deny access to human rights organizations investigating these and many other human rights abuses.

Burma's military regime emphatically rejects core labor rights including prohibitions on child labor, forced labor, and freedom of association. This is even more disconcerting because the military elite prop up a system of sweatshops producing textile products for western markets. Even under strict quotas, Burmese textile exports have exploded into the U.S. market creating a direct source of hard currency for the military dictatorship. And there are credible allegations being investigated that many goods skirt sanctions by masking their country of origin.

Textile exports are the life support for the Burmese regime and we need a complete ban on Burmese exports until we see freedom and an end to slavery. I commend my colleagues and the Administration that have stood up for human rights in Burma and kept the pressure on the regime. Now is not the time to relax sanctions, but instead tighten the noose on one of the world's worst totalitarian governments.

SBA 504 AND 7(A) LOAN PROGRAM SUBSIDY RATE CALCULATION

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because I am concerned about the effects of an unjust tax on borrowers. Every time the Small Business Administration makes a 504 or 7(a) loan, the borrower pays an arbitrary and unnecessary fee.

The subsidy rates for the 504 and 7(a) have not reflected the actual performance of these loan portfolios over the past 11 years since the passage of the Credit Reform Act in 1990. The House Small Business Committee has repeatedly raised this issue with the Office of Management and Budget. OMB continues to use a flawed methodology to determine the cost of these loan programs to the government and SBA borrowers are forced to pay excessive fees that, since 1999, have totaled nearly \$2 billion.

Today, the typical SBA 504 borrower pays more than \$10,000 in excess fees and the typical 7(a) borrower pays more than \$2000 in excess fees to the government because OMB fails to accurately determine the subsidy rates of these loans. Congress never gave OMB the right to impose a \$10,000 tax on every 504 borrower or a \$2000 tax on every 7(a) borrower. Yet that is what OMB is doing by continually overstating these subsidy rates.

The SBA is responsible for more than 40 percent of all long-term lending to small businesses. The inability of OMB to accurately estimate the cost of subsidizing small business loans draws needed resources from the very businesses these programs are intended to assist.